In the Claims

Claims remaining in the application are as follows:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended):   A method for handling image data within a digital camera having a memory storage unit for storing image data, the camera connectable to an external information handling system adapted to receive image data from the camera, the ~~The~~ method ~~of claim 1, further~~ comprising:

> storing image data elements in an image storage queue in a chronological order based
>> on time of image capture by the camera;
> assigning each image data element an archival status;
> indicating said archival status of said image data element;
> determining capacity for the camera to add additional image data elements to the
>> image storage queue as a function of said archival status and said
>> chronological order in combination;
> detecting when the image storage queue is full;
> determining whether at least one image stored in the image storage queue is marked
>> as archived; and
> if at least one image is marked as archived, deleting an oldest archived image from
>> the image storage queue.

3. (Currently Amended):   The method of claim ~~1~~ 2, wherein each said image data element has a filename for identifying the image data element in a directory system, and wherein said indicating comprises naming said filename to indicate said archival status.

4. (Currently Amended):   The method of claim ~~1~~ 2, wherein said indicating comprises:

> creating an organizational structure comprising a file system directory including a
>> reserved location for archived image data elements; and
> placing archived image data elements in said reserved location.

5. (Currently Amended):   The method of claim ~~1~~ 2, further comprising:

archiving one said image data element, said archiving comprising copying said image

data element to the external information handling system; and

changing said archival status of said image data element to indicate that said data

element is archived.

6. (Original):   The method of claim 5, further comprising associating each said

image data element with a header, wherein said changing said archival status comprises

changing the contents of said header.

7. (Original):   The method of claim 6, wherein said header comprises a data bit

indicating archival status, wherein said changing the contents of said header comprises

inverting said data bit.

8. (Previously presented):   The method of claim 5, wherein said image data

element has a filename for identifying the image data element in a directory system

comprising at least one character, and wherein said changing comprises altering said

filename by at least one character.

9. (Original):   The method of claim 5, further c omprising receiving a selection of

one said image data element for archiving.

10. (Original):   The method of claim 5, wherein said archiving comprises:

connecting the camera to the external information handling system; and

copying said image data element from the memory storage unit in the camera to the

external information handling system.

11. (Original):   The method of claim 5, wherein the memory storage unit

includes a removable storage medium, and wherein said archiving comprises:

removing the removable storage medium from the camera;

connecting the removable storage medium to the external information handling

system; and

copying said image data element from the removable storage medium to the external

information handling system.

12. (Currently Amended):   ~~A method for handling image data within a digital camera having a memory storage unit for storing image data, the camera connectable to an external information handling system adapted to receive image data from the camera, the~~ The method ~~of claim 5, further~~ comprising:

    ~~storing image data elements in an image storage queue in a chronological order based on time of image capture by the camera;~~

    ~~assigning each image data element an archival status;~~

    ~~indicating said archival status of said image data element;~~

    ~~determining capacity for the camera to add additional image data elements to the image storage queue as a function of said archival status and said chronological order in combination;~~

    ~~archiving one said image data element, said archiving comprising copying said image data element to the external information handling system; and~~

    ~~changing said archival status of said image data element to indicate that said data element is archived;~~

    determining that the memory storage unit is full;

    determining that at least one said image data element in said image storage queue has been archived; and

    deleting from the memory storage unit at least one said archived image data element according to the chronological order.

13. (Previously presented):   The method of claim 12, wherein said deleting comprises deleting the oldest archived image data element in said image storage queue from the memory storage unit.

14. (Original):   The method of claim 5, further comprising:

    determining that the memory storage unit is full;

    determining that no said image data element in said image storage queue has been archived; and

    notifying a user that the memory storage unit is full.

15. (Original):   The method of claim 14, further comprising:

    receiving a selection of an image data element for deletion; and

    deleting said selected image data element from the memory storage unit.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended):   A digital camera adapted for connection to an external information handling system, the The camera of claim 16 comprising:
    an image acquisition unit;
    a memory storage unit coupled to the image acquisition unit and configured to store a
        plurality of image data elements chronologically based on time of image
        capture; and
    a controller coupled to the image acquisition unit and coupled to the memory storage
        unit, the controller assigning each image data element an archival status,
        indicating said archival status of said image data element, and determining
        capacity for the camera to add additional image data elements to the image
        storage queue as a function of said archival status and said chronological
        order in combination, wherein ¬said controller is adapted for:
    detecting when the image storage queue is full;
    determining whether at least one image stored in the image storage queue is
        marked as archived; and
    if at least one image is marked as archived, deleting an oldest archived image
        from the image storage queue.

18. (Currently Amended):   A computer program product for controlling the handling of image data within a digital camera having a memory storage unit for storing image data, the camera connectable to an external information handling system adapted to receive image data from the camera, the computer program product comprising:
    instructions for storing image data elements in an image storage queue in a
        chronological order based on time of image capture by the camera, each
        image data element having an archival status;
    instructions for indicating said archival status of said image data element; and
    instructions for determining capacity for the camera to add additional image data
        elements to the image storage queue as a function of said archival status and
        said chronological order in combination;
    instructions for detecting when the image storage queue is full;
    instructions for determining whether at least one image stored in the image storage
        queue is marked as archived; and

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instructions for, if at least one image is marked as archived, deleting an oldest archived image from the image storage queue.

19. (Original):   The computer program product of claim 18, further comprising:

instructions for archiving one said image data element, said archiving comprising copying said image data element to the external information handling system; and

instructions for changing said archival status of said image data element to indicate that said data element is archived.

20. (Previously presented):   The computer program product of claim 19, further comprising:

instructions for determining that the memory storage unit is full;

instructions for determining that at least one said image data element in said image storage queue has been archived; and

instructions for deleting from the memory storage unit at least one said archived image data element according to the chronological order.